

Hunter Mill Highlights From Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

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Hunter Mill District
Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

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Dear Hunter Mill Friends,

What a glorious Spring! As I travel around the Hunter Mill District and the County, I see the pride Fairfax residents and businesses have for their community in gardens, flower displays, yards and care for our trees. Spring also marks the season for festivals and community celebrations. In this edition you will find details on many of the activities and family events going on in our community. I hope you will take the opportunity to get out and enjoy these events or take in some of the seasonal beauty in our parks.

This issue of the newsletter contains information from the County's Urban Foresters on the practice of tree topping. We will be bringing you their expertise on seasonal tree topics in future issues. I hope you will find the information useful.

June 4th is National Trails Day, sponsored by the American Hiking Society. Here in Fairfax County, we are blessed with a national trail, a county-wide trail, and numerous

community/district trail systems. The Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail runs from the mouth of the Potomac River to the Allegheny highlands. Back in 2006, we cut the ribbons on the County's Cross County Trail, a 40 mile trail from the Potomac River in Great Falls to the Occoquan River in the south. These websites include maps and information to help plan your excursions. Here in the Hunter Mill District, we are working hard to complete the North Vienna Trail system (NoVi) that will connect local parks and facilities such as Clarks Crossing Park, Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Wolf Trap Performing Arts Center, and the W&OD Trail. The County's website also has maps of other trails to enjoy such as Lake Fairfax Park, Riverbend Park, Scotts Run Nature Preserve, Sugarland Run Stream Valley, along with mountain bike trails, equestrian trails and nature trails.

I appreciate the feedback I hear from thoughtful, dedicated members of the community and I look forward to your continued participation and creative ideas.

Cathy Hudgins



redistricting by splitting from its home hive and reassembling in the tree at the North County Governmental Center. Beekeeper extraordinaire, Lt. Tim Field of the Fairfax County Police Department answered the call and gave the hive a new home away from our front door.

Announcements

Hunter Mill Melodies Summer Concert Series

Join me and your neighbors each Thursday evening for a free public concert featuring a wide variety of musical acts from across the United States and from around the world. The variety and quality of the acts is a reflection of Fairfax County's diversity and community spirit.

The concerts are held outdoors at Frying Pan Farm Park, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Bring a blanket or a chair for a musical experience under the stars. In addition, you will be able to take in some of the activities at Frying Pan Farm as the park will remain open until 9 p.m. on concert nights. Each week will feature farming

Thursday Night June Concerts

June 2: The Company Store (old time fiddling /country humor)

June 9: Annandale Brass Ensemble (light classical and popular songs)

June 16: Cravin' Dogs (rock)

June 23:US Navy Band Cruisers (pop/rock)

June 30: Scythian (Irish)

activities and demonstrations, wagon rides, along with produce and products from the farm for sale. The Country Store will also be open until 9 p.m. Bring a picnic dinner or take advantage of the Farm's food offerings hot from the grill.

The popular **Wednesday Morning Children Series** will continue this summer with concerts beginning at 10 a.m. Enjoy a concert and take in the fresh produce and products at the Frying Pan Farmers Market each Wednesday morning.

Sponsorship Opportunities: Please consider becoming a patron of the arts with your contribution to *Hunter Mill Melodies*. The programs are fully funded by private donations which provide both technical support and performance fees. Sponsors are gratefully acknowledged in our concert advertising, weekly programs and publications. All donations are tax deductible. Contact the Hunter Mill District office at 703-478-0283 for further information.



William 2011 Memorial Day Festival



Vienna's hometown celebration, Viva! Vienna!, will fill the streets of Vienna's historic area

with family and community oriented celebrations on Memorial Day weekend, Saturday May 28th through Monday, May 30th. There is fun and enjoyment for families and people of all ages. Food, rides and entertainment are featured all three days, with street vendors and crafters open on Sunday and Monday.

Free shuttle bus service from James Madison High School and from Vienna Metro Station is available on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m., and Monday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Recycle your E-Waste: Collection center will accept your e-waste - computers, peripherals, monitors, phones, printers, fax machines, hard drives and CD-ROMs. (No TV's at this event.) Bring your items to James Madison High School parking lot on Sunday and Monday, from noon to 6 p.m. Then, catch the shuttle over to the festival!

Details at http://vivaviennava.org/

ViVa! Vienna! SCHEDULE:

Saturday, May 28

Food and rides only 10 a.m.-10 p.m. Entertainment 5-10 p.m.

Sunday, May 29

Vendors 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Food and rides 10 a.m. –10 p.m. Entertainment 12–10 p.m.

Monday, May 30

All 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Vendors Food and rides Entertainment

Hunter Mill District Community Softball Game

Watch the fun as the Road Dawgs (police officers from the Reston District Station) and favorite staff from SLHS team up against the WPGC Jams 95.5 FM players to slug it out on the softball field.

WPGC 95.5 will be broadcasting live from the game.

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins'
Fairfax County Road Dawgs
and SLHS Seahawk Favorites
Vs.
WPGC Jams 95.5 FM Players

Wednesday, June 8, 2011 South Lakes High School at the Varsity Baseball field

<u>5:30 p.m. Cookout</u>

Bring the family - we provide the grub, drinks, and other tasty morsels

6:00 p.m. Broadcast Time

7:00 p.m. Softball Game

Sponsored by

Hunter Mill District Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

Reston District Station Police

South Lakes High School

Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.



For more information call 703-478-0283

Human Services Update

Hypothermia Prevention Brings in Results: The 2010-2011 Hypothermia Prevention Program ended April 1. Volunteers of America Chesapeake, FACETS, New Hope Housing, and Reston Interfaith, working as a collaborative group, successfully prevented any loss of life due to hypothermia during the winter season. The outstanding work and efforts by our providers, partners and volunteers are greatly appreciated as they continue to do a wonderful job each year. Once again there were no medical outbreaks or flu epidemics this year due to the diligent efforts by the Homeless Healthcare Program nurse practitioners. The providers presented their final reports on April 20 and a final highlights report will be presented to the Governing Board of the Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness this month.

Kicking Off "Ready to Rent": The Fairfax-Falls Church Housing Locator Network kicked off the first "Ready to Rent" training for clients of the Housing Opportunities Support Teams (HOST). The "Ready to Rent" program is a professionally designed curriculum focused on teaching clients skills specific to securing and maintaining housing. Graduates of the program are able to leverage their newly learned skills and certification to secure new homes for their families. More than 100 housing and human service organizations across the U.S. and Canada have successfully utilized this curriculum. The first class was held at the Volunteers of America Chesapeake's Baileys Crossroads Community Shelter. More classes will be scheduled. For more information, contact Tom Barnett at tbarnett@goodhousing.org.



May is Community Action Month in Fairfax County

Save the Date

Faith Communities Housing Engagement Event

Learn how your faith community can make an impact.. For clergy, housing advocates, nonprofit organizations, developers, legislators and faith leaders interested in ending homelessness.

Wednesday, June 1 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Fairfax County Government Center

Presented by the Governing Board of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Partnership to Prevent and End Homelessness. Information at 703-324-9492, or at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homelessness

A Case for Workforce Housing

The National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) has released its **Out of Reach 2011** report which shows that the Housing Wage for Virginia is \$19.65/hour. The Housing Wage is the hourly wage a family must earn working 40 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, to be able to afford rent and utilities for a two-bedroom unit in the private housing market. The Housing Wage for Virginia is 7% higher than the national Housing Wage of \$18.46, and represents an increase of 55% since 2000. Virginia's housing wage of \$19.65 translates into \$40,876 annually, making Virginia the 11th most expensive state in the nation for rental housing costs.

Statistics for Northern Virginia paint a far more disturbing picture. The Housing Wage for a family in Northern Virginia is \$28.10, representing an annual salary of \$58,400. This is the amount needed to afford rent and utilities of \$1,461 (Fair Market Rate) for a two-bedroom unit, which represents a 61% increase in rents since 2000. According to **Out of Reach 2011**, approximately 46% of renters in NoVA are unable to afford units in the private housing market. For those workers making minimum wage of \$7.25/hour, their affordable rent translates to \$377/month. For those SSI recipients receiving monthly payments of \$674, their affordable rent is \$202/month. To afford a 2 bedroom market rate apartment in NoVA, a minimum wage worker must work 155 hours a week.

Out of Reach 2011, was released by the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), a Washington, DC-based housing advocacy group. Entire report is available on their link - http://www.nlihc.org/oor/oor2011/

Land Use

Status of Hunter Mill District Projects

South of Market Lot 16 LLC: Tax Map 17-3((10)) Parcel 16 – Reston, VA: South of Market Lot 16 LLC seeks approval of a Planned Residential Community plan (PRC 85-C-088-02) for Section 91A, Block 16 of the Reston Town Center. The applicant proposed to amend a previously approved PRC plan for the property in order to implement the development of 359 multi-family residential units and 29,145 square feet of retail and restaurant uses. Planning Commission public hearing will be held June 16, 2011 at 8:15 p.m.

Reston Spectrum LP, Tax Map 017-1 ((1)) Parcels 3K, 3P and 3Q: with a total acreage of 24.29 is seeking approval of Planned Residential Community (PRC) plan 86-C-121-04 for mixed use development. The three Land Bays will consist of the following: Land Bay A is planned for 546 dwelling units, 255 hotel rooms, 172,000 square feet of office and 62,500 square feet of retail uses; Land Bay B is planned for 643 dwelling units, 270 hotel rooms and 48,650 square feet of retail uses; and Land Bay C is planned for 237 residential uses and 134,896 square feet or retail and bank uses (84,000 square feet of this retail is currently existing and will be retained. Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for September 29, 2011 at 8:15 p.m.

Fairway Apartments Redevelopment Proposal: The Fairway I & II Residential LLC (Applicant) Planned Residential Community (PRC) Plan (PRC A-502-2) has been revised. The Applicant is now proposing a reduction in the market rate units from 940 to 806/reduction of 134 units and phased development. Fairway West will consist of approximately 570 residential units in a mix of townhomes and woodframe multifamily construction, with the proposed high-rise tower with above grade parking being eliminated. Fairway East will consist of 233 residential units in a mix of townhomes and woodframe multifamily construction. The Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for July 7, 2011 at 8:15 p.m.

Hunter Mill Country Day School: 2021 Hunter Mill Road, Vienna: Hunter Mill Country Day School, previously approved for General Education, nursery and childcare, has filed SEA 86-C-066-02 to permit building additions with reduction of the number of students. Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for June 16, 2011, at 8:15 p.m. Board of Supervisors public hearing will be on June 21, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.

Reston Association: Dogwood Pool Renovation, 2460 Green Range Drive, Reston: Reston Association has filed a PRC (PRC-C-099) plan for substantial renovation of the 31 year old aquatics facility. At the request of the applicant, this application has been indefinitely deferred.

Sekas Homes: 8900 Old Courthouse Road, Vienna: Sekas Homes, Ltd. and Land Design Consultants, Inc. has revised zoning application RZ 2010-HM-006 to rezone from R-1 to R-3 conventional with the development of six (6) lots @ 8900 Old Courthouse Road, Tax Map 28-4((1)), Parcel 20. Planning Commission public hearing was held on December 2, 2010 at 8:15 p.m. The Planning Commission decision only was on April 20, 2011. Board of Supervisors' public hearing on May 24, 2011, 3:30 p.m.

JBG/RIC, L.L.C. and RIC Retail, L.L.C. (Reston Heights): 11800 & 11842 Sunrise Valley Drive, Tax Map 17-3((3)), Parcels 1C & 1D: has submitted a revised Planned Residential Community (PRC) plan PRC B-846-03 to previously approved plan for 145,000 square feet of above grade retail, 100,00 square feet of below grade retail, 428,225 square feet of office with 498 residential units. The revised plan does not change the density or use allocation. The plan proposes a new grocery and neighborhood retail into pedestrian friendly, urbantype streetscape with mid-rise residential above. Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 8:15 p.m.

Hospital Corporation of America: 1850 Town Center Parkway, Reston: Tax Map 017-1((01)) Parcels 15B and 3H1: has submitted a Comprehensive Sign Plan (CSP-2011-HM004 proposal for three new building-mounted signs as well as improved freestanding signs throughout the campus to illustrate and direct visitors around the Reston Hospital campus. Planning Commission public hearing has not been assigned.

Continued on next page

Land Use projects continued from previous page;

RPB & M, LCC: 11401, 11403, 11407, 11411 & 11417 Sunset Hills Road, Reston: RPB & M, LLC has filed rezoning application RZ 2010-HM-004 and Final Development Plan 2010-HM-008. The application proposes development at Section 913, Tax Map 17-4((19)) Parcels 1,2,3,4,5A and 6A and 17-4((24)) 4B to develop one mid-size multi-family residential building (520 units), office building 170,000 sq. ft. and 8,000 sq. ft. of support retail. No Planning Commission public hearing has been scheduled at this time. Planning staff is waiting for additional information from the Applicant regarding the 527 traffic analysis.

RTC Partnership, LLC seeks approval of a Planned Residential Community Plan (PRC 77-C-076) for 1760 Reston Parkway, Reston: The non-proffered Development Plan for the Property was originally approved in 1978 pursuant to RZ 77-C-076 for Gulf Reston, Inc.; which called for commercial retail and office uses with no height or intensity (FAR) restrictions. The Applicant proposes to build a 400,000 square foot office building with a green roof top park. The first five levels of the structure will consist of retail space and structured parking. The remaining 18 levels will be designed for office use. The Planning Commission public hearing is scheduled for October 6, 2011 at 8:15 p.m.

Land Use Special Projects and Programs

Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force:

The Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Steering Sub-committee held meetings on April 6th and April 14th. On April 6th, the sub-committee reviewed the Wiehle Sub-committee recommendations and discussed jobs to household ratios. At the April 14th sub-committee the Department of Planning and Zoning staff presented a proposal for a "Flexible Comprehensive Plan Framework for Transit Oriented Development". The full Task Force met on Tuesday, April 26th @ 7:00 p.m. Heidi Merkel, Department of Planning and Zoning provided an update on the Steering Sub-committee discussions. For additional information contact DPZ staff at (703)478-1380 or access information at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/meetings taskforce.htm

Route 28 Station South Study Group:

The Route 28 Station South Study Group met on Monday, April 25th at 7:00 p.m. The Department of Planning and Zoning presented a proposal for a "Flexible Comprehensive Plan Framework for Transit Oriented Development". The Study group also discussed the Planning principles and Development priorities for this area. For the meeting schedule and updated information access http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/route28.htm.

Lake Anne Village Center Commercial Reinvestment Plan Presentation

On Wednesday, May 4th my office and the Fairfax County Office of Community Revitalization and Reinvestment (OCRR) hosted a Public Presentation of the Lake Anne Village Center (LAVC) Commercial Reinvestment Plan (CRP) by Alvarez and Marsal Real Estate Advisory Services, LLC (A&M), and The Eisen Group (TEG). The consultants shared short and long term goals with the key focus on creating a Commercial



Management Program to implement the Commercial Reinvestment Plan. The power point presentation can be found at http://www.fcrevit.org/lakeanne/download/LAVCCommercialReinvestmentPlan.pdf. For the Final Report in its entirety, go to http://www.fcrevit.org/lakeanne/CRP.htm

Urban Walmart at Tysons

The recent article in the Washington Post announcing the intention of Walmart to sign a lease with JBG Retail at Tysons has sparked a great deal of concerns and questions from the community.

This area was originally zone C7-Commercial Retail District. On December 14, 1976, Moore Cadillac was approved under Special Permit S 278-76. A Special Exception was later approved on September 11, 2003 for an expansion of the existing vehicle sales, rental and ancillary service establishment. The special exception approval expanded the existing Cadillac dealership and added a new dealership (Hummer) with a five to six story parking garage. When the dealership moved to Chantilly several years ago, the property converted back to the original C-7 zoning.

In 2008, JGB submitted site plans for Commercial District – 7 use to the Fairfax County Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES) and received approval for their by-right development known as Promenade at Tysons West. This plan was later revised in July, 2009, with minor modifications to the parking garage approved later. A Traffic Impact Analysis was submitted and accepted by the Virginia Department of Transportation in October, 2008. The evaluation was provided to DPWES based on the proposed development and addressed accordingly.

The "Urban" Walmart being proposed is not a "Superstore" or big box, as the square footage is under 80,000 and did not require a Special Exception. JBG, Retail has indicated the development will occur in phases, with Phase I, Block 1 consisting of following: 1) **three (3) retail components**: 79,900, 4,000 and 4,000 sq. ft., totaling 87,900 sq. ft., 2) **Office**: 30,200 sq. ft., and 3) **the fitness center**: 45,000 sq. ft.. The total square footage for Phase I is 170,000 sq. A total of 641 of the 819 parking spaces on site will be required for the Phase I. This is based on the ratio of four (4) spaces per 1000 square feet of gross floor area when the parking calculations a for greater than 100,000, but equal or less than 400,000 square feet of gross floor area.

It is my understanding that in the near future, JBG will be submitting revised plans for their site, more in sync with the recently approved Comprehensive Plan language for Tysons. Opportunities for community participation in the process will be announced in future issues of this newsletter.



Artist rendering of Promenade at Tysons West on Route 7, viewed from the future Metrorail station. (The existing Sheraton Premier is to the right of planned building.) The blue shaded area in the front is vacant and planned for future development.

Transportation

Northern Vienna Trail Segment D

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has awarded a contract for construction of NoVi Trail – Segment D. This project would add approximately 600 linear feet of asphalt trail along Beulah Road. Meadowlark Botanical Gardens has offered to build a bike parking facility on their property to accommodate bicyclists who arrive via the new trail. The NoVi trail segments A, B, and C are currently in the final stages for design and the funding for the project has been secured. More information will be available in the coming months on new advancements with this project.

2011 Bike to Work Day

May is National Bike Month. Friday, May 20th, is Bike to Work Day in Fairfax County and the Washington Metro area. This is an exciting opportunity for bicycle commuters as well as those who have thought about getting out of their cars and onto their bikes. Bicycle commuting is an effective means to improve air quality, reduce traffic congestion and promote wellness. There will be nine Bike to Work events in Fairfax County this year. The locations are Reston, Vienna, Springfield Metro Park, Tyson's Corner, Fairfax City, Fairfax Corner, Herndon, Burke and Merrifield. The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved a joint board matter commemorating Bike to Work day with strong support.

Soapstone Drive Community Meeting Update

On May 9th, Supervisor Hudgins hosted a community meeting about proposed pavement marking changes to Soapstone Drive. The proposed changes are coordinated with the repaving of Soapstone Drive during the summer of 2011. Changes would include reductions in lane widths and add bicycle lanes going in both directions. Interested parties can view the plans at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/transportation/transdocs/soapstone-presentation-handout.pdf. Public comments about the Soapstone Drive changes can be sent to the Virginia Department of Transportation via Randy Dittberner (Randy.Dittberner@VDOT.Virginia.gov)

Fairfax County Parkway/West Ox Road Intersection Improvement Project Update

Fairfax County Department of Transportation has substantially been completed in April. This project included the construction of a dual left turn lane northbound to West Ox Road, extension of the existing southbound right turn lane to West Ox Road, and pedestrian improvements including handicap ramps and pedestrian signal heads. These improvements increase safety for pedestrians and cyclists using these roadways.

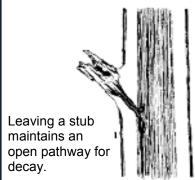


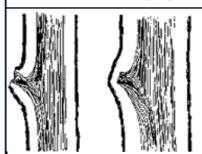
Beulah Road Bridge Rehabilitation Project

The Beulah Road Bridge suffered some structural damage in the fall due to a vehicle collision. Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) and Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWAA) worked together to stabilize the damage. VDOT has prepared a plan to raise the eastbound span of the bridge which would mitigate vehicle collisions in the future and provide some pedestrian improvements. Designs are being completed presently and we will report on the bridge's rehabilitation as it progresses in the future. A copy of the presentation can be viewed at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/huntermill/transportation/transdocs/copy_of_presentation_beulah_hmd.pdf.

Topping Trees Creates Hazards



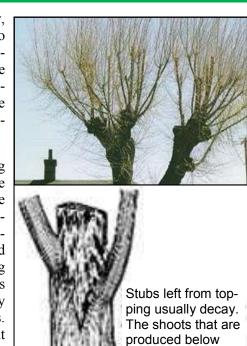




The tree will close a well-positioned cut as new wood is produced. Normally, it will compartmentalize and restrict decay spreading internally.

Topping prunes branches indiscriminately, leaving stubs or lateral branches too small to assume the terminal role. The most common reason given for topping is to reduce the size of the tree to make it "safe." Topping, however, is not a viable method of size reduction and, in fact, makes trees more hazardous in the long term.

Leaves produce food for the tree. Topping often removes as much as 75 percent of the leaf-bearing crown of a tree. Reducing the leaf surface area cuts off food supplies, resulting in stress. A stressed tree is more vulnerable to insect and disease infestation and large open wounds characteristic of topping expose the wood to decay. Stressed trees may lack sufficient energy to chemically defend the wounds against decay pathogens. To counter this stress the tree activates latent buds, forcing the rapid growth of multiple shoots to produce more leaves as soon as possible. This response may be successful in countering the initial stress, but this type of growth is structurally weak.



attached and often become haz-

ardous as their size increases.

the cut are weakly

The new shoots develop from buds near the surface of the remaining branches. Unlike normal branches that develop within a socket of overlapping wood tissues, these new shoots are anchored only in the outer layer of wood. Unfortunately, these shoots are prone to breaking in wind or under ice or snow loads. The irony is that while the goal was to reduce the tree's height to make it safer, topping has resulted in a more hazardous situation than existed before.

Tree structure is, to a great extent, self-correcting. Wood develops in reaction to weight distribution throughout the tree, increasing strength where it is needed to counteract forces impacting roots, trunk, and branches. This is not to say that damage will not occur. But, in the absence of obvious defects, many of which can be the result

of poor pruning practices leading to decay and structural weaknesses in the tree, trees are usually better equipped naturally to withstand the forces of nature than we can make them.

If a tree is in a condition that would warrant drastic crown reduction, then removal of the entire tree should be seriously considered. This is less expensive in the long term, both from the perspective of the work involved and in the increased risk of property damage and potential injury. A replacement tree can be planted, possibly one that reaches a more appropriate ultimate size for the location. Early pruning can be done to facilitate proper structural development of the new tree, avoiding problems that might develop in the future that could be more expensive and less effectively addressed later in the tree's life.



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Farmers Markets Open 2011 Market Season

May dawns the opening of the season's Farmers Markets in Fairfax County. Farmers markets sponsored by the Park Authority are "producer-only", locally grown market system. Vendors generally come from within a 125-mile radius from Fairfax and must grow or produce all products they sell at the market. No brokers or reselling is allowed. Supporting local farmers helps preserve farmland while protecting the Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

In May, the markets are teeming with early season harvest of strawberries, asparagus, spring onions, salad greens, radishes, Swiss chard and beets. Late season apples carefully kept in cold storage are crisp and juicy. For your own garden, potted herbs for planting include sage, lavender, oregano, thyme, parsley cilantro, rosemary, chives, dill and basil along with garden favorites such as tomato and pepper plants. Other fare at the markets include artisan breads, cheeses, beef, port, chicken, sausages, fresh farm eggs, salsas, hummus, jams, jellies, honey, pasta, pesto, goat cheese spreads, ice cream, fresh milk and milk products.

Markets sponsored by the Park Authority near/in Hunter Mill are;

Frying Pan Farm Park - (2709 West Ox Road) - Wednesdays 8 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Herndon - (in old town Herndon) - Thursdays, 8 a.m. - noon

Oak Marr - RECenter - 3200 Jermantown Road) - Wednesdays 8 a.m. - noon

Reston - (Lake Anne Village Center) - Saturdays 8 a.m. - noon

In Vienna, the <u>Vienna Saturday Farmers Market</u> is sponsored by the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna and held at the caboose parking lot on Church Street, operating from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

At all the above markets, the Fairfax County Master Gardeners attend to offer their free gardening advise, tips and techniques to help with your own backyard or container garden, insect control and more.

From Fairfax Fire and Rescue Department

Barbeque Grill Fire Season Upon Us

As the grilling or barbecue season descends upon us, the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department wants to remind residents that grill fires cause an estimated average of 10 deaths, 100 injuries, and \$37 million in property loss each year nationwide, according to the U.S. Fire Administration.

Almost half (49 percent) of grill fires on residential properties occur from 5 to 8 p.m. Thirty-two percent of all grill fires occur in the months of May, June, July and August, and the leading category of equipment power source is "gas fuels", (79 percent).

Grills, hibachis, and barbeques on residential properties continue to be a high fire risk and, on average, result in more injuries and slightly higher dollar losses when compared to all other fires. It is crucial that each person diligently practice fire safety when cooking or grilling outside.

Grill Safety Tips

- Grills should be placed at least 15 feet away from any home, building, or combustibles to ensure adequate air circulation.
- Charcoal must be kept dry. Wet charcoal can spontaneously ignite. Spare propane bottles should be stored away from the home. A backyard shed is a good place.
- Keep children and pets away from grills. Grills continue to give off heat long after cooking has stopped.
- Never place hot ashes in paper or plastic bags or containers. Only use metal containers for hot ashes.
- Use Underwriters Laboratories (UL) approved electrical starters in place of lighter fluid.
- Never use a grill on apartment or condominium balconies. This practices is one of the biggest dangers with grills. It is unsafe and against the law.



First Mondays with Supervisor Cathy Hudgins

June 6 - Reston Regional Library

July 11 * - Patrick Henry Library (held on 2nd Monday due to 4th of July holiday)

Supervisor Cathy Hudgins holds <u>First Monday</u> each month to hear from you. <u>First Monday</u> hours are from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, or if you prefer, you can schedule an appointment by calling the Hunter Mill District office at 703-478-0283, or email to hntrmill@fairfaxcounty.gov.



Club Phoenix Kids Take Charge

The Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services and the Town of Vienna Club Phoenix Teen Center partnered to bring the Take Charge Program, Towards No Tobacco (TNT) and Towards No Drug (TND) to Vienna youth. The program focuses on awareness, prevention and community activism. Tweens and teens participate in the interactive three week initiative as part of our Club Phoenix After School Program. The participants play a variety of games, do written exercises and watch educational videos. They will come away with a variety of skills that are useful in real life situations. For more information, contact Tammy Funk, After School Program Coordinator at 703-255-5736, or at tfunk@viennava.gov.

All Night Grad Events Need Your Support

High School graduation is a reason to celebrate and all night grad parties (ANG) provide a memorable evening for our graduates in a alcohol and drug free atmosphere. Parents and volunteers work most of the school year on organizing a fantastic night with entertainment, activities, games, food, keepsakes and prizes. Still needed for this year's celebrations are contributions, donations of items and food, and volunteers. Please consider helping out the celebration in your area - websites for FCPS high schools in and serving Hunter Mill students are listed.

Herndon High School

http://www.herndonang.org/

Langley High School

http://www.langleyptsa.org/ANGP-2011.aspx

Madison High School

http://www.jmhsptsq.org/PTSA Business.php

Marshall High School

http://www.gcmptsa.org/

Oakton High School

http://www.oaktonhsptsa.org/ang.htm

South Lakes High School

http://www.southlakesptsa.org/angp.htm

Hershey Track and Field Games

Friday, May 20 – 5:00 p.m. (youth ages 9-10) Saturday, May 21 – 9:00 a.m. (youth ages 11-14) at Falls Church High School – 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church, VA 22042

If you are a kid between 9 and 14 years old who loves to run, jump, and throw, the <u>Hershey Track and Field Games</u> are for you! Come on out and join in the fun by competing in basic track and field events and earn opportunities to advance to compete in the annual North American championships in Hershey, PA. Beginners and track enthusiasts are all welcome. Events include the 50 meter dash, 100 meter dash, 200 meter dash, 400 meter dash, 800 meter run, 1600 meter run, 4 x 100 meter relay, standing long jump, and softball throw. Everyone's a winner because you are making the choice to get fit!

Participation is FREE but <u>pre-registration</u> is required by Friday, May 6. For more information, please call 703-324-5533, TTY 711. Hershey Track event is sponsored by the Fairfax County Department of Neighborhood and Community Services.

RECYCLING EVENTS

Document Shredding: Saturday, May 21, 8 a.m. to noon

at the Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale This service is for shredding documents of a personal or sensitive nature such as tax documents, medical or financial records. Residents can shred up to five medium-sized packing boxes of paper per household.

Electric Sunday Recycling Event: May 22, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

at the I-66 Transfer Station, 4618 West Ox Road, Fairfax Residents can recycle televisions, computers, monitors and peripheral electronic devices such as printers, scanners, speakers, keyboards, mice and external drives. Also collected at these events are unbroken fluorescent tubes and light bulbs.

See ViVa Vienna! event on page 3 for recycling computers - Memorial Day weekend.





All Fairfax Reads New Selection: Little Princes by Connor Grennan

All Fairfax Reads, the library's community-wide reading program, is now in it's eighth year. This year's selection is the memoir *Little Princes: One Man's Promise to Bring Home the Lost Children of Nepal* by Connor Grennan.

Grennan's book recounts how a three-month volunteer stint in a small Nepalese village transformed into a personal mission to reconnect trafficked children with their families. Grennan's team has reconnected almost 300 families with children they feared were lost to them forever. All Fairfax Read is available online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library

Congratulations

Fairfax County Human Rights Commission will honor two Hunter Mill residents at this year's 33rd annual Human Rights Awards.

Kenneth Fredgren: Ken has worked tirelessly with local property owners and managers to improve access for persons with mobility impairment. In addition, he has been an advocate for legislation at the local, county and state levels to ensure access for mobility challenges.

John Horejsi: John is the founder of Social Action Linking Together Organization (SALT), an organization that assist those with housing challenges. SALT was able to keep more than 7,000 distressed families in their homes and out of shelters by providing emergency assistance to families statewide.

Fairfax County Public Library Board of Trustees honored volunteers who reached service milestones;

<u>Patrick Henry Library</u>: Martin Long and Karen Pellerin both logged 1,000 volunteer hours.

<u>Reston Regional Library</u>: Vicky Rea contributed 3,000 hours. Nancy Dickson, Charles Denno, Julia Scofield, and Netherland Wilson reached 1,000 volunteer hours milestone. Thank you for your service and your contributions!

Madison High School Varsity Girls Lacrosse team is currently competing in the Regional Tournament with their eyes on the state championship. This year's team has captured the Liberty District crown and is <u>undefeated</u> this season. Best of luck on finishing up a remarkable season! *GO Warhawks!!*